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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,001	03/11/2004	Hideshi Hattori	CU-3633	6288
26530 7590 09/19/2008 LADAS & PARRY LLP 224 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE SUITE 1600 CHICAGO, IL 60604				
EXAMINER				
JUNG, UNSU				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary**Application No.**

10/798,001

Applicant(s)

HATTORI, HIDESHI

Examiner

UNSU JUNG

Art Unit

1641

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 13-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 22-25 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 November 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/27/08
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendments in the reply filed on July 11, 2008 have been acknowledged and entered. The reply included amendments to Abstract and claims 13-15.

Status of Claims

2. Claims 13-25 are pending, claims 22-25 have been withdrawn from consideration, and claims 13-21 are currently under consideration for patentability under 37 CFR 1.104.

Objections Withdrawn

3. The objection of the Abstract has been withdrawn in view of the amended Abstract in the reply filed on July 11, 2008.

Rejections Withdrawn

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4. The rejection of claims 13-21 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph has been withdrawn in view of amended claims 14-15 in the reply filed on July 11, 2008.
5. Upon further consideration, the following prior art rejections have been withdrawn in favor of the new grounds of rejections set forth below:
- Rejection of claims 13-15 and 19-21 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Glazier (WO 00/61282, Oct. 19, 2000) and as evidenced by Minemura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,583,840, Dec. 10, 1996) (hereinafter "Minemura");
 - Rejection of claims 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glazier (WO 00/61282, Oct. 19, 2000) and as evidenced by Minemura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,583,840, Dec. 10, 1996) (hereinafter "Minemura") and further in view of Noblett (U.S. Patent No. 6,362,004 B1, Mar. 26, 2002).

Information Disclosure Statement

6. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on May 27, 2008 has been considered by the examiner.

Claim Objections

7. Claims 13-15 are objected to because of the following informalities: the comma following the term "bio-microarray" in line 1 should be deleted. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

9. Claims 13-15 and 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Glazier (WO 00/61282, Oct. 19, 2000) and as evidenced by Patel (U.S. Patent No. 4,994,318, Feb. 19, 1991) and Taylor (U.S. Patent No. 2,713,286, July 19, 1955).

Glazier anticipates instant claims by teach a substrate (support region, see entire document, particularly, pp2-3 and p8, lines 19-23) for bio-microarray, wherein:

- anti-reflection layer (porous region comprising colloidal silica particles, p3) is formed on the surface of the substrate, the anti-reflection layer has a fine uneven structure comprising a fine particle of diameter in a range of 7-100 nm (p3, lines 21-22); and

- an immobilization layer (linker molecules, p26, line 17-27, line 28) for immobilizing a probe molecule is formed in a pattern on the anti-reflection layer.

With respect to the "anti-reflection layer," although Glazer is silent on disclose the anti-reflection properties of colloidal silica particles, the porous region of Glazer comprising colloidal silica particles (p3) would inherently possess anti-reflection property since it is well known in the art as taught by Patel that the colloidal silica has anti-reflection properties (see entire document, particularly column 2, lines 9-10).

With respect to the limitation of "a bulk refractive index of the fine particle is smaller than that of the substrate," Glazier further teaches that the substrate can be selected from variety of materials including plastic (p8, lines 19-20). Although Glazier does not specifically disclose that the bulk refractive index of silica particles is smaller than the plastic substrate, Glazer discloses that the substrate (support layer) can be similar or different materials than the materials of the porous region and can specifically include all types of glass materials, plastics, polymers, fused silica and other rigid and semi-rigid materials. As Glazer teaches that the support layer can comprise fused silica and the porous region (anti-reflection layer) can also include colloidal silica particles, porous layer (anti-reflection layer) of silica particles would inherently have a bulk refractive index is smaller than that of the support layer (substrate) since Taylor teaches that substantial reduction of bulk refractive index of a layer is obtained because of the presence of air within the porous structure (column 3, lines 17-34).

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With respect to claims 14 and 15, Glazier teaches that the anti-reflection layer has a fine uneven/porous structure (porous layer) with a depth in a range of 10 nm to 70 μm (p3, lines 1-4).

With respect to claims 19-21, Glazier teaches a bio-microarray, comprising the substrate as set forth above and a biomolecule immobilized on the substrate (p13, line 21-p14, line 14).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

12. Claims 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glazier (WO 00/61282, Oct. 19, 2000) and as evidenced by Patel (U.S. Patent No.

4,994,318, Feb. 19, 1991) and Taylor (U.S. Patent No. 2,713,286, July 19, 1955) and further in view of Noblett (U.S. Patent No. 6,362,004 B1, Mar. 26, 2002).

Glazier as evidenced by Minemura has been disclosed as set forth in item 8 above. However, Glazier as evidenced by Minemura fails to teach a mark formed on the substrate for positional detection.

Noblett reference teaches fiducial marks located on predetermined locations with respect to a microarray sample, in order to position and align the sample with greater precision for detection purposes (see entire document, particularly abstract and column 3, lines 24-35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Glazier as evidenced by Minemura with fiducial marks located on predetermined locations with respect to the probe array, as taught by Noblett, in order to position and align a sample with greater precision for detection purposes. The advantage of more accurate detection, as taught by Noblett, provides the motivation to combine teachings of Noblett with Glazier as evidenced by Minemura. In addition, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have had reasonable expectation of success in including the fiducial marks, as taught by Noblett, in the apparatus of Glazier as evidenced by Minemura, since Glazier teaches an array of predefined or known regions of polymers (see Glazier, p13, lines 27-28), and the fiducial marks of Noblett provides a means to correctly locate the immobilized polymers.

Response to Arguments

13. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 13-21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. However, the following arguments have been addressed as they may also apply to the current grounds of rejections.

Applicant's argument that Glazer is silent with regards to the porous region being an anti-reflection layer has been fully considered, but is not found persuasive. As stated above, although Glazer is silent on disclose the anti-reflection properties of colloidal silica particles, the porous region of Glazer comprising colloidal silica particles (p3) would inherently possess anti-reflection property since it is well known in the art as taught by Patel that the colloidal silica has anti-reflection properties (see entire document, particularly column 2, lines 9-10). Further, the current specification discloses that anti-reflection layer can include variety of particles include SiO₂ particles. Therefore, the porous region of Glazer comprising colloidal silica particles would inherently possess the anti-reflection property as currently recited in the claims.

Applicant's argument that linker molecules of Glazer can be equated to an immobilization layer has been fully considered but is not found persuasive as Glazer teaches linker molecules, which can be used to immobilize variety of polymers including nucleic acids, polynucleotides, proteins, polypeptides, polysaccharides, oligosaccharides, etc. (p2, lines 1-5 and p6, lines 11-24). Therefore, the linker molecules of Glazer reads on the "immobilization layer" currently recited in the claims.

Since the prior art fulfills all the limitations currently recited in the claims, the invention as currently recited would read upon the prior art.

Conclusion

14. No claims are allowed.

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to UNSU JUNG whose telephone number is (571)272-8506. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Long Le can be reached on 571-272-0823. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Unsu Jung/
Unsu Jung
Patent Examiner

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